

such a terrible exposure of himself and his Government before the civilised world, even if, as was natural, it was not couched in a judicial and strictly objective tone.

It is both a refutation and an attack, in which, of course, personalities abound. It refutes the charges of Philip, and arraigns him in turn at the bar of history. and humanity. William exults at the outset in his proscription. It is only a testimony to his fidelity to a great cause, the defence of the liberty of his people against the Spanish oppressor. It, moreover, affords him an opportunity of making known to all the world the justice of that cause. Philip denounces his ingratitude. Ingratitude is a strange word to apply to the conduct of a man whose services to Philip's father and those of his ancestors to his dynasty were notorious historic facts. Philip calls him a foreigner, but have not his ancestors been for centuries powerful lords in the Netherlands long* before a scion of the House of Habsburg became their duke, while Philip's ancestors were but petty counts in Switzerland ? He calls him a demagogue. If to defend the liberties and privileges of the people be the *role* of a demagogue, he gladly accepts the glorious title. "I am, and always will be, on the side of the people." He calls him a rebel. He is no rebel. Resistance to an arbitrary king is no rebellion. The King of Spain has no absolute power over these provinces. He may be king in Spain, Naples, the Indies. In the Netherlands he is only a duke, whose power is limited by the charters he has sworn to observe, and from which no pretended absolution of the pope can free him. The word rebel sounds strange on the lips of a potentate who himself comes of rebellious stock. What, for instance, about that rebel, Henry of Trastamare, from whom Philip derives his Spanish crown, and who rose in arms against his own brother, Don Pedro ? Don Pedro was in truth a cruel tyrant, but Philip has been guilty of an even more detestable tyranny. What, too, of that Habsburg count, another of his ancestors, who made war on the Emperor Adolf, from whom William is descended? But can that justly be called rebellion which consists in defending the liberties of one's country? If so, he rejoices in the name, and from the day that he learned from the lips of Henry II. himself the project of the wholesale massacre of his countrymen he has